

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

April 28, 2009

The week of April 25 – May 2, 2009 has been declared as “National Infant Immunization Week” (NIIW) and the month of May as “Toddler Immunization Month” (TIM). These annual observances raise awareness about the importance, safety, and benefits of receiving immunizations on time, starting at birth through the age of two.

The 2009 California NIIW and TIM theme is "Immunizations - I Choose to Stay on Track for a Lifetime of Good Health." NIIW and TIM offer an ideal opportunity to highlight the benefits and safety of vaccines and to provide parents and providers with accurate, timely, and understandable information that can help them make the best choices about immunizations for their children and patients.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommend that infants and toddlers complete a primary series of immunizations to protect them against fourteen serious diseases including pertussis, chickenpox, and the measles. These immunizations are safe, effective, and the best way to protect infants, children, families, and communities from diseases that can be serious and sometimes deadly.

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MOTION

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Despite increases in immunization coverage levels, about 1 in 5 children in Los Angeles County has not received all recommended immunizations by 24 months of age, leaving them vulnerable to serious, yet preventable illnesses, such as pertussis. These diseases can be especially serious for infants. About two thirds of infants with pertussis are hospitalized and pertussis fatality is highest for infants.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors does hereby designate April 25 - May 2, 2009 as "National Infant Immunization Week" and May 2009 as "Toddler Immunization Month."

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RE:mw